FB# 189

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT NO.	25X1
SUBJECT 25X1	Medical and Industrial Information on Walbrzych (Waldenburg)	DATE DISTR.	1 October 1953
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Medical Information

- Every Municipal National Council (Miejska Rada Narodowa) has a health department (Miejski Wydzial Zdrowia) controlling all the medical institutions in the town. These departments are under the direct control of the voivodship health department (Wojewodzki Wydzial Zdrowia) which is also included in the framework of the voivodship council (Wojewodzka Rada Narodowa).
- 2. At the beginning of 1952 the regulation requiring that these departments be headed by a qualified physician was abolished, and at present the only qualification required is membership in the Party. As a result it now often happens that young women with no professional training, and sometimes even with no secondary education, are placed in charge of medical institutions. In some cases former cleaners have been appointed to such positions.
- 3. The health department of Walbrzych is located on ulica Barbara 3. This town of approximately 100,000 citizens has only one large clinic, on ulica Kolejowa 3. This clinic supplies all specialist services, and employs 20 to 30 physicians working in two and sometimes three shifts. In addition to this clinic there are several medical centers, most of them attached to one of the local coal mines.
- 4. All workers and members of their families, including children up to the age of 18 and students who have not completed their studies, receive free medical treatment on showing a sick fund membership card (Ksiazeczka Ubezpieczalni Spolecznej). It is believed that an arrangement is to be made whereby people employed in free enterprise will also be able to receive treatment at the sick fund centers against payment.
- 5. According to a specific state order, all members of the medical profession (doctors, technicians, murses, etc.) must work at least six hours a day at a government

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hospital in order to be able to practice privately. This order includes all men up to the age of 65 and all women up to the age of 60.

- 6. Walbrzych has two large hospitals:
 - a. The former Public Health Society (Towarzystwo Ochrony Zdrowia-TOZ) hospital, located on ulica Paderewskiego in the suburbs of Nowe Miasto. It has a surgical and a maternity department.
 - b. The Municipal hospital, located on ulica Batorego. This hospital, formerly German, consists of 10 or 12 big buildings.
- 7. There is now no longer any shortage of drugs. While it was impossible to obtain penicillin or streptomycin a year ago without a special prescription signed by two government physicians, these have been freely available for the past months. This can be explained by the fact that Poland has recently begun to produce antibiotics at the pharmaceutical factory at Pabjanice. The efficial price of 300,000 units of penicillin is 30 zloty. Because of imperfect production methods this penicillin is painful on injection, and many people prefer to turn to the black market and to pay a higher price for Danish or American penicillin. Danish penicillin is imported by the Government; American penicillin arrives in parcels sent by relatives. The price of American penicillin on the black market has recently dropped considerably. A year ago 300,000 units cost 1,400 zloty, and it is now possible to obtain them for 350 zloty.

Industrial Information

- 8. Approximately 20,000 German technicians and workers are still employed in the Walbrzych coal mines. The main mines now in operation are: Batoky, Mieszko, Thorez (formerly Julia), and Szczesc Boze (formerly Gottessegen). In recent years the Poles have started to exploit a number of coal mines in the Rosinow suburb of Walbrzych which the Germans had not found worth while operating.
- 9. The Karol glassware and crockery factory, which employs approximately 600 workers, is located next to the Walbrzych railroad station. Its products are marketed throughout the world. A special department, located elsewhere, produces mirrors and industrial glass.

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